

ORDERS:

WHEREAS, this General Assembly of Maryland is fully impressed with the necessity of all practical economy in the expenditures of government, as a great conservative principle of free institutions; and now regard it, as a duty of special observance, when our beloved State is languishing under the pressure of immense enterprises, rashly undertaken beyond the resources of her people. And whereas, they believe a much more efficient system for the administration of justice, can be adopted, whereby justice can be secured to the suitors in our courts, fully, without denial, and speedily without delay; and that this important result can be achieved at a greatly diminished cost to the treasury.

Ordered, That the committee on Grievances and Courts of Justice be instructed to inquire into the expediency of altering the constitution of this State, so as to establish therein, six judicial circuits for each of which, one judge shall be appointed, with a salary of two thousand dollars.

And further, to establish a Court of Appeals, consisting of three judges, to each of whom there shall be allowed a salary of two thousand dollars.

And further, to establish a High Court of Chancery, with a like salary to the Chancellor of two thousand dollars.

And further to establish by law, a superior for the city of Baltimore, which shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the court for that circuit in all cases, when the matter in dispute exceeds the sum of five hundred dollars; and which shall, also, at stated terms in the year, exercise all the jurisdiction that is now exercised, by the Baltimore city court. To the judge of such superior court shall be allowed a like salary of two thousand dollars.

And further, to provide for the appointment of one commissioner of insolvent debtors, of the city and county of Baltimore to whom there shall be allowed a salary of twelve hundred dollars; it being also provided, that all the fees now paid to the commissioner of insolvent debtors, in the course of all publications for the benefit of the insolvent laws, shall be returned every month, under the oath of the commissioner, to the Treasurer of the Western Shore.

Ordered, That the same committee be instructed to enquire whether any, and if so, what change, in the tenure of judicial office in this State is expedient.

Ordered, That the committee on Grievances and Courts of Justice, enquire into the expediency of reducing the salaries of the judges of the county courts.